	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/786,809	MURAKAMI ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sana Al-Hashemi	2164	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIOF of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in t or other appropriate commun IGHTS. This application is su	his application. If not included ication will be mailed in due course. THIS	
1. \boxtimes This communication is responsive to <u>amendment filed 5-23</u>	<u>3-07</u> .		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-9</u> .			
 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ureal. All b) Some* c) None of the: Certified copies of the priority documents have Certified copies of the priority documents have Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Topies of the certified copies of the priority documents have 	e been received. e been received in Application cuments have been received i	No n this national stage application from the	
noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	IENT of this application.		
 A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give 	itted. Note the attached EXAN es reason(s) why the oath or c	MINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF eclaration is deficient.	
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	st be submitted.		
(a) \square including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached	
1) 🗌 hereto or 2) 🔲 to Paper No./Mail Date	· •		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment or in	n the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t			
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			
Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Info	rmal Patent Application	
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. 🔲 Interview Sun	nmary (PTO-413),	
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),		ail Date mendment/Comment	
Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. 🛭 Examiner's S	tatement of Reason's for Allowance	
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DETAILED ACTION

- 1. This action is issued in response to applicant amendment filed May 23, 2007.
- 2. Claims 1-9 were amended. Claims 10-20 were canceled.
- 3. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the 37 CFR 1.131 was persuasive. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

Regarding independent claims 1, 4, and 9, the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the claimed provision of: A recording apparatus for recording on a recording medium electronic files and an index file to assist in the subsequent reproduction of a recorded file, said recording apparatus comprising: means for recording desired file on said recording medium; means for updating an index file recorded on the recording medium in response to recording of any of the flies; the index file being formed from a train of slots of extra~ information of the files and a folder or folders; each of the slots having set therein higher hierarchy reference information pointing to another slot of a higher hierarchy, lower hierarchy reference information pointing to a further slot of a lower hierarchy, same hierarchy reference information pointing to a still further slot of the same hierarchy and a valid/invalid flag representative of whether the slot is valid or invalid; and means for setting the

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valid/invalid flag of a predetermined one of the slots which is in a state set to valid with the valid/invalid flag to invalid to set the slot as a free slot while settings of the higher hierarchy, lower hierarchy and same hierarchy reference information of the slot are maintained, in conjunction with remaining claim provisions, is not taught or suggested, or rendered obvious over the prior art of record or that encountered in searching the invention.

The dependent claims 2-3, 5-8, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

Comments

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than

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the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany

the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of

Reasons for Allowance."

4. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, Applicant's response must either comply

with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37

CRF 1.111(b) and MPEP section 707.07(a).

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

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Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4013. The examiner can normally be reached on 8Am-4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sana Al-Hashemi

Primary Patent Examiner Technology Center 2100

June 18, 2007